

Department of Art
California State University, San Bernardino

Judy Rodriquez Watson Public Art Project

Project Director: Professor Sant Khalsa

The CSUSB Department of Art provides a unique educational experience in the area of art for public places. The Judy Rodriquez Watson Public Art Project began in 2005 with a generous gift commitment of \$300,000 from James and Judy Watson of Watson and Associates. Since that time, students, faculty, and alumni have been engaged in the creation and production of public artworks situated in the City of San Bernardino and most often near the campus.

The course, ART 441 - Public Art was developed in conjunction with our Public Art Project and students in advanced level courses in painting, sculpture, and ceramics have also had the opportunity to be actively involved.

Course Description: ART 441 - Public Art

The study and practice of art for public places including the history, theory, conceptualization, production, and professional and business practices. May be repeated for a maximum of 20 units as content changes. Two hours lecture and six hours activity. Materials fee required. Prerequisites: ART 120, 121, 122 and 123 or consent of instructor. (5 units)

Several Projects have been completed, others are in progress, and more are planned. Students, faculty, and alumni have competed for professional paid commissions and have gained greatly from this outstanding professional experience.

Completed Projects:

“ArtStop”

ArtStop” is comprised of a series of 12 24-inch concrete spheres that were painted with “Arts and Entertainment” themed designs by Cal State San Bernardino painting students. Students were invited to submit designs and a jury comprised of the university’s art faculty, representatives of Watson & Associates and city officials reviewed a number of designs and selected the 12 finalists. The city purchased the spheres and a \$500 commission was given to each finalist. The spheres are installed at various locations in downtown San Bernardino.

Student Artists:

Dion A. Cuevas, Yucaipa
Janis Chun, Moreno Valley
Jay Merryweather, San Bernardino
Sabrina Valles, Moreno Valley
Michael Kirk, San Bernardino

Conrad Ruiz, Fontana
Heidi Rampley, Victorville
Mark Batongmalaque, Moreno Valley
Queena Hernandez, Rialto
David G. Morgan, Beaumont
Annabel Osberg, Upland
Kristoferson SanPablo, Alta Loma

“Fauna Inlandia”

Ten Metal Sculptures in Chancellor’s Park (Kendall Drive and Campus Parkway) that are metal stylized representations of native animals and birds interacting with the landscape both on the earth and in the sky.

Artists: Professor Richard Johnston (Large Deer) and Professor Katherine Gray (4 Red Tail Hawks & 2 Small Deer)

CSUSB Student Artists: Matt Hillseth (Baby Black Bear), Pat Farrell (Rabbit), and Fernando Lugo (Hummingbird)

CSUSB Sculpture Student Assistants: Parker Dunbar and Nick Navarro

Four Ceramic Tile Murals (on Median Pylons – Campus Parkway and Northpark Blvd)
Each are 256 square feet of handmade glazed tile in stoneware clay.

The ceramic tile artworks present four interconnected sides depicting imagery of the natural flora and fauna of the area with a focus on the elements of earth, air, fire, and water.

Lead Artist and Ceramic Project Director: Professor Alison Petty Ragguette
Co-Designer and Managing Artist: Anna Delgado
Co-Designer and Lead Painter: Thomas Osekowsky
Guest Poet: Professor Juan Delgado
Installation Lead: Paul Koontz

CSUSB Ceramics Student Assistants: Matt Dickerson, Lucy Barragan, Cindy Williams, Gaston Imai, David Barnes, Ryan Taylor, Amanda Fry, Gabriella King, Nelson Gonzalez, Ryan Taylor, Jennifer Grace, Daniel Brandenberger, Humberto Reynoso, Zack Espinoza, Mark Quinto, Dessie Mckean

Additional support for Public Art Project provided by:
Professor Richard Johnston and Professor Sant Khalsa
Dr. Eri F. Yasuhara, Dean of College of Arts and Letters
Richard Jarvis, Director of Development, College of Arts and Letters
Erika Quinonez, Assistant Director of Development, College of Arts and Letters
Yvette Menacho, CSUSB Art Department ASC
Dessie McKean, CSUSB Ceramics Instructor Support Assistant

Hamid Azhand, Director, CSUSB Capital Planning, Design, and Construction
Tony Simpson, Zane Schroyer, Tyrone Bookman, and Juan Macias, CSUSB Facilities Services
Robert Whitehead, CSUSB Photographer
Theo DeHart, CSUSB student photographer
James Gondos, City Parks Department
Mark Robinson, Performance Water Jet
Mark Shoaf, Pac West Sheet Metal
Mayor Pat Morris, City of San Bernardino
Peggi Hazlett, Assistant to Mayor Pat Morris
Professor Annie Buckley
Councilman Chas Kelley
Dr. Albert K. Karnig, CSUSB President
Nate Dubbs, CSUSB Studio Art Instructional Support Technician
Heather Lowe, CSUSB Visual Resources Specialist
Diane Podolski, Director, CSUSB Community University Partnership
Fernando Dutra
Jan Stachowiak
James Funk
Patricia Salas

In Progress:

Water Sculpture

Large-scale commission for the northwest corner of University and Northpark in front of a planned retail center across from campus.

Artist: Elizabeth Newton, Alumni

“My water sculpture will create a peaceful place for everyone’s enjoyment. Though 17 feet tall and made of steel and bronze, it seems weightless, smooth, and delicate. The environment created by the work is meditative and gardenlike, a perfect resting place for the campus community.”

To prepare students to submit designs for the large competitive commission, sculpture professor Richard Johnston taught a class focused on the creation of artworks for public places in his Advanced Sculpture course during the winter and spring quarters of 2005. The eleven students taking the class were given the specifications for the sculpture, and they prepared submissions for the jury that included scale models, written concept proposals, and project budgets.

The jury—comprising representatives from the art faculty, the campus administration, Watson and Associates, and the city of San Bernardino—selected three finalists, each of whom received comments to consider when working on their final proposals, and honorariums to support that work over the summer.

In September 2005, Elizabeth Newton, Zeina Ramirez, and Holly Wells each personally presented a plan to the jury for a sculpture between 14 and 16 feet high incorporating a water feature. Elizabeth Newton's work was selected and was produced under the supervision of Prof. Johnston. Though the work was completed it hasn't been installed due to delay in the construction of the retail center.